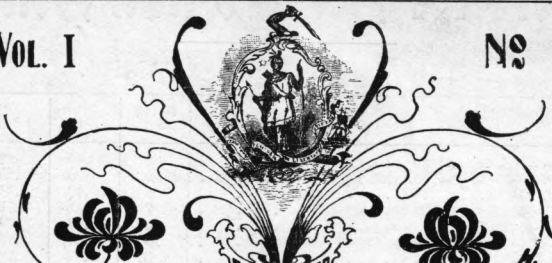
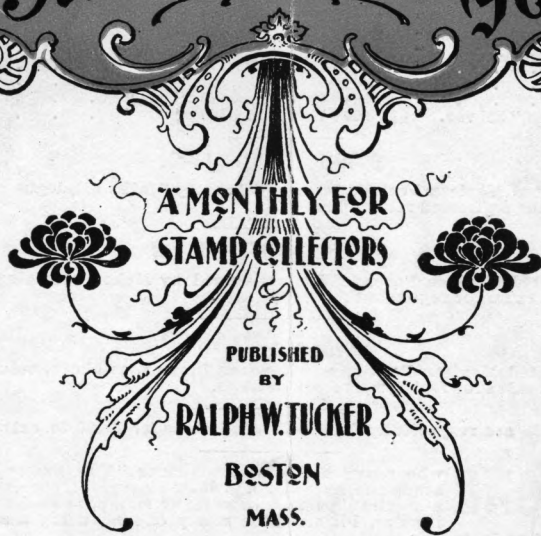


VOL. I

NO 1



The Stamp Exchange



A MONTHLY FOR
STAMP COLLECTORS

PUBLISHED
BY

RALPH W. TUCKER

BOSTON

MASS.

PRINTED BY J. B. BROWN, NEW YORK, N.Y.

AS EVER Big Offers for Dealers and Collectors.

MEXICAN POSTAGE STAMPS.

DATE		No. in Set	Cat. Price per Set	PRICE PER SETS		
				1 Set	10 Sets	100 Sets
1874	5-10-25-50-100c., complete	5	\$0.46	\$0.20	\$1.80	-
1884	1-2-3-4-5-6-10-12-20-25-50c. and 1 peso, complete	12	1.29	.50	4.00	-
1885	1-2-3-4-5-6-10-12c.	8	.77	.35	3.00	-
*1886	3-4-6-10-12-20-25c., all lilacs, complete	7	4.41	1.75	15.00	-
1886-94	1-2-3-4-5-6-10-12-20-25c., colors, complete	9	.48	.10	.75	\$5.00
*1886-94	1-2-3-4-5-6-10-12-20-25c., colors, complete	10	.98	.25	2.00	-
1895	New issue, 1-2-3-4-5c.	5	.12	.04	.20	1.50
"	" " 1-2-3-4-5-10c.	6	.15	.05	.25	1.75
"	" " 1-2-3-4-5-10-12c.	7	.23	.08	.70	5.00
"	" " 1-2-3-4-5-10-12-15-20c.	9	.34	.12	1.00	7.00
"	" " 1-2-3-4-5-10-12-15-20-50c.	10	.59	.23	2.00	-
"	" " 1-2-3-4-5-10-12-15-20-50c.-1p.	11	1.19	.50	4.00	-
"	" " 1c. to 10 pesos, complete, unused, specimen set in black, perf.	13	-	2.50	-	-

* Means used and unused.

PACKETS OF MEXICAN STAMPS.

POSTAGE.			REVENUES.		
	Price			Price	
B., 50 diff.	Scott's cat. value, \$3.16	\$1.00	K., 100 diff., only		\$1.25
D., 80 "	" " 6.72	2.00	L., 150 "	" " "	2.50
"The Popular," 110 diff.	" " 11.23	3.50	N., 200 "	" " "	4.50
E., 130 diff.	" " 21.25	6.25	P., 250 "	" " "	12.00
"Cauatemoc," 150 diff.	" " 43.13	12.50	R., 350 "	" " "	22.00
F., 170 diff.	" " 57.15	18.50	T., 400 "	" " "	28.00
G., 200 "	" " 66.42	22.50	X., 500 "	" " "	100.00
H., 250 "	" " 126.05	50.00	Y., 600 "	" " "	130.00
"The Ne Plus Ultra," 325 var.	" " 189.70	75.00	Z., 700 "	" " "	170.00

\$9.00 FOR \$1.00.

200 well assorted Mexican Postage Stamps, valued by Scott's catalogue at \$9.00, only \$1.00. 15c. extra for registered return postage.

\$10.00 FOR \$1.75.

200 well assorted Mexican Revenue Stamps, valued by Mekeel's catalogue at \$10.00, only \$1.75. 15c. extra for registered return postage.

\$19.00 FOR \$2.00.

400 well assorted Mexican Postage and Revenue Stamps, as above, valued at \$19.00, only \$2.00. 25c. extra for registered return postage.

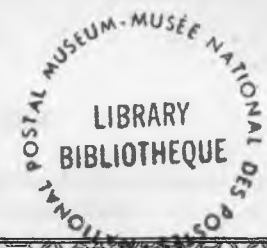
Orders under \$0.25 are respectfully declined. Orders under \$1.00 5c. extra for return post.

EVERY ONE who answers this ad., mentions "THE STAMP EXCHANGE" and sends an unused U. S. postage stamp, full gum, of 10c., will receive a Mexican postage or revenue stamp, as desired, valued at 50c.; besides, I'll send the stamp offered, using a stamped envelope, current issue of 4 or 5c. as desired.

Cash with orders. Payment in U. S. bank notes. No checks accepted, only small sums under \$1.00, payment in unused U. S. postage stamps, full gum. Please register your orders from \$1.00 upwards.

J. V. REVELO,
CITY OF MEXICO - MEXICO.

Please mention "The Stamp Exchange."



The Stamp Exchange

VOLUME I.

APRIL, 1899.

NUMBER 1.

Our Greeting.

DEAR READERS: Pardon our affectionate way of starting in on a task which to us seems very difficult, owing to the large number of philatelic journals which are already roaming this country from coast to coast, but we wish thereby to impress it on your minds that we mean well towards you, and will do all in our power to place in these columns news and advice of such a nature that from them you will derive much pleasure as well as benefit.

We wish it understood at the very outset that we cannot boast of forty-page numbers; in fact, we prefer not to, for the reason that with such an amount of reading matter the additional twenty pages or so would often contain subjects which would tire the reader and be of no special note. This is the case with the majority of the stamp journals of to-day (not all of them by any means); it is their desire to make as large a show as possible—especially the first year, after which, however, they either gradually thin down to the twenty-page copy, with poor or useless reading matter, or else they fail. If we ever get to this stage of the game, we hope to receive notice of it at once. Our attention will be devoted to quality

rather than quantity, and this golden rule will be our motto. If in time we are so situated that we can increase our volume of reading matter we shall do so, but will always keep in mind the words of our motto. The old adage says, "A bad beginning makes a good ending." We shall vary this slightly and say, "A modest beginning will (often) bring a prosperous ending."

As to the circulation for No. 1 of this journal, we can rightly say that there is no other journal of Philately published which circulates a larger number; for every issue after that of No. 1 we guarantee a circulation of over 5,000 each time, and if subscriptions come as fast as they have up to the present writing we shall soon be able to boast of a good round number of *paid-up* subscribers.

As to the reading matter herein contained, there will be essays nearly every month by many of the best-known writers of Philately, the contents of which are certain to be of interest to all, and although our notes at present are somewhat limited, we shall soon be in a position to obtain the *latest* from a few of the large cities in this country, as well as from Europe.

A few words to our advertisers would perhaps do no harm: We have in our own advertising learned that the fewer

the words used the better the returns; that is to say, that the more open and incompact an advertisement appears, the more likely are all readers to notice every word. This is not the case with advertisements so cramped and solid that it takes considerable time as well as patience to read the whole. This is the advertisement which the reader often skips, thinking that the writer has a considerable lot of stamps which he has had on hand for a long while, and has been unable to sell. The advertisement with a generous amount of space, and a few bargains at a time will bring better returns every time than the one which may be described as a hay-stack with a thousand needles in it, and the searcher does not know which one he wants.

Lastly we wish it understood that we are at all times *ready to receive advice*, as we are here for the benefit of every one; and with a few suggestions here and there we can make this journal such that it will have somewhere within its pages something of interest to people of all minds. If there are any special topics which any one wishes discussed, we will gladly take them up if they are of sufficient interest to please every one.

We shall not print "six pages of reading matter and eighteen of advertisements"; that is not the style we intend to copy. Nor shall we promise to do such and such a thing *when* we have obtained 8,000 to 10,000 subscribers; we shall do that certain thing first, and then take the reward, instead of receiving the reward first, and then fail to carry out our promises.

A Fraud-list we think would be of special benefit to all, and we shall devote a space to this, if our readers will

send the names and addresses of any of these estimable personages.

Now that a word has been said in behalf of THE STAMP EXCHANGE, we wish to enumerate a few points which many publishers do not consider. Of the many collectors of postage-stamps in this country probably five-sixths of them are not of age, and half of that number do not as a rule understand the many "long words" and expressions, with now and then a sprinkling of Greek, Latin or Sanskrit, which some journals are constantly making use of. It is true that one can express himself more easily, and come to the point sooner, with such language, but when he takes into consideration the fact that the younger ones must have as good a chance as any one, it seems but fair to think of them first. Do not judge from this that THE STAMP EXCHANGE is to be a juvenile paper; far from it, for there will be articles which will interest every one, from the "fiend" down to the beginner.

A word also in regard to notes from the larger cities. You all know that it is the custom to devote a few columns to this subject, and you will notice that in many journals these notes are exactly identical; we shall vary ours as much as possible and put forth only such as are worth the reading. Of course a long string of notes is all right as far as making a paper look plump and substantial, but when you notice that one paragraph is written a second time with a change of words (the writer has noticed a fourth repetition in one journal), this is carrying things pretty far.

New issues will be discussed when the opportunity offers.

You all know that when a new journal appears on the scene there is considerable comment, and abuse to be endured; but we have made up our minds to take all such as it comes, and will "stick" to what we have once undertaken; and so we bid you all "good-morning," and inform you that we have arrived, and will fly our colors among the best of them.

RALPH W. TUCKER.

ONE of the greatest kindnesses our readers can do is to *mention always* THE STAMP EXCHANGE when answering any advertisement, or, in fact, anything in regard to our journal. We thank you all in advance for this favor, and trust you will at least do this to help us along.

Anent the Approval System.

BY LEON V. CASS.

MUCH has been written for and against the approval system, and many different views have been given both for and against the present method of dealers. Now, in my opinion, the approval sheet trade has come to stay, and in all probability approval selections will be sent out just as long as there are people who collect and people who deal in stamps.

Discounts vary greatly and no doubt they always will as long as there are dealers enough in the field to compete with each other in drawing the shekels from the collectors' pockets. In my opinion the methods of many dealers are far from right, and collectors should boycott dealers who persist in sending

out reprints and such trash on their approval sheets or books.

Don't, for a moment, suppose that it is the young amateur dealers who send the boy and girl collectors of our land selections of reprints and trash; of course there are exceptions, but it has been my lot to run across more large firms who send out reprints than young amateur dealers. In my opinion, reprints should have the word "reprint" or "fac-simile" in small letters across the face, and then there would be less damage done to Philatelists than now.

Dealers should refrain from passing off their reprints, "Seebecks," foreign revenues, and like trash on young, inexperienced collectors.

It rests with the young people of America whether Philately will continue to gain adherents and continue to advance; and it is far from wise for the dealers to discourage collecting by sending them trash. Let there be a reform, and let dealers turn over a new leaf and refrain from sending out reprints and other stamps of like grade.

There are plenty of cheap stamps (that are stamps in the true sense of the word) to send out, and it will be money in the dealers' pockets in the end to treat not only the experienced collectors but the younger ones with courtesy and honesty. There is no truer maxim than the old one heard so often, which I will write as a closing warning to dealers and collectors: "Honesty is the best policy."

BE SURE to read John Bisbee & Co's ad. He has some very fine bargains. Do not miss it!

Fragments of Confederate Stamp History.

BY AUG. DIETZ.

PRESUMING that my readers have, at one time or another, been afforded the opportunity of perusing one of the many — though incomplete — histories of the postal emissions of the Confederate States of America, or, possessing a collection of these interesting stamps themselves, are led to seek additional information concerning them, I would at once dispel the probable impression that another attempt is to be added to those of the past — one equally unsuccessful and incomplete.

The task of compiling a complete account of these stamps yet remains to be undertaken; until then I shall be content to gather the scattered fragments of Confederate stamp lore in the South, thus contributing my humble quota to that future *complete* and authentic History of the Confederate Stamp.

There are still many points upon which the authors of these several histories fail to agree, and many more facts that yet remain to be established.

To all the information presented in the histories referred to I have nothing new to add, but I purpose calling the attention of my readers to two stamps of the Confederate States, supplemented by a few facts concerning them, which, I believe, are not generally known to collectors. One of these may truly be called the *rarest*, the other the most *unique*, because of the fact that it is the only Confederate of its kind known:

1863 10 CENTS PERFORATED.

THE first stamp referred to above is the 10 CENTS blue of 1863, *perforated*. It is priced in Scott's 58th at 75 cents in unused condition and \$5.00 used.

Parenthetically I would remark that I should be ever so willing to "swap" a perfect TEN CENTS used on cover, or unused, or, in fact, any other rare Confed' of the general issue *for that perforated 75c stamp, — provided it were the real thing.*

Let us learn something about this stamp:

Major Evans in his paper on "The Government Postal Issues of the Confederate States of America" quotes from notes furnished by a Mr. Coster, as follows:

"In the early part of the late war Mr. Offutt (the Assistant Postmaster-General) ordered from Messrs. De la Rue & Co. a perforating machine, and on its arrival in Richmond, he applied it to a few sheets of each value for the purpose of seeing 'how the thing worked.' Although the Department never formally adopted this improvement, a few specimens of the stamps so manipulated appear to have passed through the post-office, and thence to the albums of collectors. All the stamps perforated by Mr. Offutt were on the scale of 12½ holes per two centimeters, and of the following values of the second series: 2 cents, rose; 5 cents, blue; 10 cents, blue; 20 cents, green."

So much for Mr. Coster, and this gentleman is correct in his statements. But to these statements I would add the information given me by my friend Mr. Frank Baptist, at that time in charge of the press-room of Archer & Daly's, where the stamps were printed and perforated. In reply to my query, why the perforating of Confederates was not continued, my friend stated that "the thing (referring to the perforating machine from De la Rue & Co.) didn't work satisfactorily" — the "pins" and "sinks" becoming

"clogged" with the poor gum used on the sheets, and that the demand for stamps being so great at the time perforating was abandoned altogether. I was also recently told by Mr. Baptist that the lady who at that time had charge of the perforating machine, and who personally "run through" the several sheets of stamps, still resided in Richmond, and I have been promised the escort of Mr. Baptist for a call on this matron.

The fact remains that *very few* of these *officially* perforated stamps passed out to the public. I am therefore confident that this stamp is *the rarest* variety of the general issues of the Confederacy.

But where do the dealers get them to supply the demand?

I will let my readers find their own conclusions, after quoting the reply of a prominent dealer who was once asked: "How can you afford to sell a perforated Confederate for 50 cents?" Taking the collector by the lapel of his coat, he counterquestioned: "*Isn't 50 cents enough pay for running a stamp through a sewing-machine?*"

And the collector "tumbled" forthwith — (probably he hid himself to some sewing-machine vender, investing his shekels in one of those most useful implements, one that could be regulated to jab 12½ holes to the space of two centimeters). There are quite a number of these stamps on the market today with bogus perforation, and my readers cannot exercise too great caution in purchasing.

I venture to assert that there are not fifty used copies in all the collections in this country combined; and, by the way, I'll include dealers' stocks in that assertion!

I will further claim that, with the assistance of Mr. Baptist (who recalls very distinctly which particular printings were perforated), I can select 99 bogus perforations out of every 100 stamps submitted.

There are several features about the genuine stamp which will serve to identify it for all time. I will mention three, which suffice in determining the character of any 10 CENTS perforated: (1) Never touch a clear-cut perforated specimen; (2) never touch a light-color gum; (3) never touch a stamp on hard paper.

The remaining two evidences of genuineness are in the quality of ink and in the manner of the inking.

CONFEDERATE ESSAY.

THE next item referred to as the most unique stamp is the only Confederate States stamp *essay* known.

The specimen in my possession and the information that follows were given me by a well-known Richmond collector — one who collected "during war-times," and who vividly recollects and vouches for the facts I present: —

During the year of 1863 the Department contemplated a new design for the TEN CENTS stamp of the Confederate States.

The Southern Lithographing Company, of Richmond, Va., prepared the drawing and transferred it to stone, from which proofs were struck and submitted.

The design is an upright rectangle, about 1 inch by 1½ of an inch. Covering nearly the entire depth and width is an oval band, the top of which is occupied by a panel bearing the words

C. S. of A. POSTAGE; in the band, below, appears the value TEN CENTS. In the center of the oval band, upon a background of very close cross ruling, appears the Confederate flag of the early pattern: A blue field in the left upper corner with seven stars in a circle, and three stripes, two of which (the red and white) join the blue field, and the third (red) extending the full length from the staff. The right and left upper corners are filled by round tablets bearing the figures "10." Arabesque ornamentation "balances" the design at the bottom.

Two rows of ten stamps each were transferred to the stone for the purpose of "striking" proofs. These proofs were made in blue and also in black ink.

This stamp — rather this design — was not adopted, from the fact that the Confederate Government had, just at that time, decided to alter the design of its flag.

Quite a number of these proofs — or essays — were secured by my collector-friend, to whom I am indebted for the specimen in my collection.

Subsequently the Southern Lithographing Company sold out to Messrs. Simons & Keiningham. When this firm dissolved, the stone bearing these essays was purchased by A. Hoen & Co., of Richmond, and, I am told, it was later on sold to a party in the North.

This is the history of the only Confederate "essay," and while it is not my purpose to claim for the "Flag Stamp" a berth in the "59th," I merely relate these facts to discount the ONE CENT 1864, which is not a whit more eligible to a space on our page of stamps of the Confederate States of America.

Space Fillers.

BY ZURA.

WHAT shall I put here and what shall I put there bothers the average collector in more ways than one. Take a collection of perhaps 5,000 varieties mounted in a Scott's album; in accumulating that number of specimens one will procure many complete sets, and yet many of the sets will lack one or two stamps, and these, as a rule, are the high-priced stamps and the ones that we never intend to get, nor can afford to buy. What to put into these blank spaces, and what *is* put into the spaces, makes the entire collection worthy of being praised or condemned.

Space fillers, which we find in most collections, are classified as follows: torn or heavily cancelled specimens, dirty and greasy specimens, stamps with a few perforations gone, distorted or off-centred specimens, counterfeits, etc.

Of all the above the torn specimen is the only one worthy of consideration; the others where they cannot be cleaned or improved upon are like so much rubbish. The torn stamp where no parts are missing is the ideal space filler (this of course applies only when one cannot think of investing in a bang-up specimen at an expensive figure). For illustration take

Collection No. 1, having a complete set of U. S. Treasury Department stamps, which are in fine condition barring the 24c value, which is cancelled so heavily that one could not tell whether it were a stamp or a piece of black sticking-plaster. Still, after close study, we find it is really a 24c stamp, and should belong there; yet as far as

beauty and neatness are concerned, it queers the entire set.

Collection No. 2 has a set of U. S. stamps of the '69 issue; one or two are unused, the others are used but lightly cancelled, and not all stained up. The 90c value we find upon close examination to be a torn stamp neatly repaired; from a monetary standpoint it is worth but little compared with the perfect specimen, but as a space filler it answers the purpose of the perfect stamp, and as it rests there among its non-crippled nephews does not mar the beauty of the set from an artistic standpoint.

The handsome counterfeit, some will say, would answer the purpose of a space filler and show off to greater advantage than the torn stamp. Well, those who believe this are welcome to that opinion. A counterfeit \$10 note is worth nothing, whereas a torn \$10 note is worth something; this same rule applies to the space filler. Counterfeits, no matter how pretty they may look, are worth nothing, as counterfeits of almost any stamp can be made and sold for one cent each at a profit; surely the collector having a repaired 90c '69 in his album would not care to exchange it for a perfect looking counterfeit, nor would he think of selling it for nothing.

The space filler in one's collection should command more attention than it does, and when a damaged stamp is in such condition that it cannot be made to look respectable it had far better be turned over to the flames than be left in the album to disgrace its neighbors.

EVERY one please note that in following numbers advertising pages will be limited; it is therefore urgent to contract for space at once. Note remarks on Page 1 in regard to advertising.

As to the Collector.

BY WILLIAM M. VERBECK.

HERE in this "wicked world below," where man is continually striving to fill his coffers with the "almighty dollar," in order that he may supply the wants of himself and family, we find that every man looks for some pleasure and recreation to occupy his mind when his daily toil is done.

Of course, pleasures are of numerous kinds and each man has his preference, be it good or bad; but the man who can go home to his family at night and take out his stamp album and enjoy an evening occupied in looking over and adding to the treasures contained therein has, in my mind, struck the leader and most profitable of all pleasures.

We look to see where and in what conditions of life this happy collector is found.

The rich man, with his unlimited supply of gold, is very naturally the first one we would suppose to be a collector, for he not only has the spare time in some cases, but he is in a position to add to his fine collection any specimen he desires, without having to consider the all-absorbing question of the majority of collectors, "Can I afford this?"

We also find that the man who, though not necessarily rich, has plenty of spare time and nothing to "kill" it with, will in some way or other start saving the stamps from his and his friends' letters, until he suddenly becomes interested and makes a raid on "mother's hair trunk." His finds are generally of a very commonplace nat-

ure, but they have done their work and we find in him an enthusiastic and diligent collector and a firm supporter of our "hobby."

To the invalid Philately is indeed a blessing. How many lonely, tiresome, weary and painful hours have been obliterated from the face of time to this poor suffering creature by the stamp album and its contents. If she be amply endowed with "worldly goods" she has the advantage over her more unfortunate sister, but no matter how large or fine the former's collection, she can get no more pleasure from it than the latter does from her few hundred varieties.

A person who has an artistic eye, and an admirer of all things beautiful, is one who is naturally a collector. Such countries as Switzerland, Sweden, Newfoundland and the Central American republics, with their beautiful issues, generally appeal strongly to this person's artistic taste, who in time has so far advanced in the steps of Philately that the original attraction—beauty—is left out of consideration.

The historical and geographical knowledge which is derived from a careful study of the stamps and the countries issuing them is a very great magnet to the person of high education, and he is drawn into "our fold" and becomes a careful student of his stamps, and it is this person who produces articles for the stamp papers which in the future will prove invaluable; it is he who becomes the discoverer of minor varieties, perforations, paper, water-marks, etc., and it is he who becomes an authority on the subject and a general promoter of Philately.

In one sense the speculator is a col-

lector, although not so much for the pleasures to be derived as the money to be obtained by a careful purchase and holding of desirable stamps. In one sense he is very undesirable, but if we take another view we find that his speculating, which sometimes sends the price of stamps up and increases the interest in them, is of great benefit to Philately.

The uneducated and the careless and untidy person will seldom be found in the ranks of collectors. I say "seldom found,"—for in some cases they are very much in evidence,—because Philately, being a science, can have no charms for the illiterate person, and stamp collecting, appealing as it does, as I have said before, to the lover of the beautiful and the artistic, can, therefore, have no attraction to such untidy and careless individuals.

In some cases the stamp collector and even the Philatelist will be found among the poor, laboring classes, but even in these rare cases the laboring man is handicapped by his want of funds, and what little collection he has is for the most part made up of the stamps he can beg from his friends' letters, or such "stuff" that happens to come his way.

It can therefore be readily seen that the collector is more universal among the higher classes and people of high intellects, and is not found among the ignorant and uneducated.

Philately is growing, and the followers of the science are increasing, and before another generation has passed away I predict that stamp collecting, or Philately, will be one of the necessary and elementary branches of our present system of education.

Lagos, Africa.

BY "SPMATS."

LITTLE known and seldom referred to, on the western coast of the "land of darkness" lies a small and comparatively unimportant island, not much above the surface of the turbulent Gulf of Guinea. Though so obscure and unheard of, it is, nevertheless, a stamp issuing colony of Great Britain, and to this fact is due the penning of this little article.

Lagos, our subject, was till its capture by Great Britain in 1851 the seat of an extensive slave trade in the Bight of Benin. Long before its capture it was looked upon with suspicion by "The Mistress of the Sea," and when the human traffic extermination was earnestly being pushed, Lagos was one of the very first places to be visited by the British hand of humanity and freedom. Captured and overawed in 1851, it was still under the direct control of King Docemo, who, in spite of the many warnings given to him, rendered aid and encouragement to the slave traders of the coast. Consequently, in 1861 he was dethroned, and placed on a pension of 1,200 bags of cowries, or about \$5,000 in our money. After his forced retirement Lagos became a full-fledged British Colony.

No sooner did this take place than Lagos, poor, sleepy Lagos, awoke from its Rip Van Winkle morpheum, and speedily became a place of life, beauty, health and commercial growth. From a population of less than 10,000 in 1861, it has grown to 110,000 in 1895. In 1861 Lagos was almost covered with low, marshy, fever-breed-

ing swamps; in 1895, under the civilized hand of the Europeans, not a swamp is to be seen throughout the length and breadth of the entire island. Where mud-huts and stagnant pools predominated before the advent of the British there are now towns containing pretty villas, trim cottages, and good roads. On the shores wooden wharves have been built, and at their docks ships of all nations are loading and unloading their varied cargoes—and all this is the result of European civilization.

In size the island of Lagos is about 1,017 square miles, about 40 square miles less than the smallest State of our glorious Union, the State of Rhode Island.

In compliance with the terms of the charter by which all the British possessions on the western coast of Africa located between the second and fifth degrees of east longitude were to be united, in 1876 it became a part of the Gold Coast Colony, but only nominally, since it retains its original name, keeps most of its government in its own hands, and, what is of greater interest to Philatelists, it has the power to issue its own stamps.

Now in regard to these, that is, her postal issues. The history of Lagos is short and sweet; it has blessed the collecting fraternity with thirty-nine (39) varieties, all told, including a registration envelope, but excluding all minor varieties, of which it had its fair quota.

In 1874-'75 came forth its first issue. This consisted of six varieties, as follows: 1p lilac, 2p blue, 3p red brown, 4p rose, 6p blue green, 1sh orange.

The catalogue value of the set, according to Scott's 58th edition, is \$45

unused and \$12.75 used. The design of these stamps was somewhat akin to the 1884 issue of Bahamas. The perforation is $12\frac{1}{2}$, and the watermark a crown and C. C. In 1875 the stamps were reissued, with a few slight changes. The 6p came out in a decided green and the perforation of the entire set was altered to 14. According to Scott the majority of these stamps are scarcer than the corresponding values of 1874. Their catalogue value amounts to \$73.25 unused and \$13.70 used.

In 1882 a new set of the same general design was issued, but lacking the 6p value, and with a change of color in the 3p from red brown to plain brown. The watermark also underwent a change to crown and C. A. instead of crown and C. C., as formerly in vogue. The catalogue quotes the set \$27.39 unused, the 2p and 4p values coming in for \$12 each. The set in used condition is quoted at \$5.25.

In 1885-'86 another new set was launched forth, as a great ship of war going forth to conquer the domains of Queen Philatelia. It consisted of the following eight stamps: $\frac{1}{2}$ p green, 1p rose, 2p gray, 4p lilac, 6p olive, 2sh 6p olive brown, 5sh blue, 10sh brown violet.

The last three values are now considered as gems worth having. They list at \$35, \$50 and \$100 respectively in unused condition; no prices given for used.

Seemingly not satisfied yet, Lagos must needs try its hand at the stamp business again, and the very next year, 1887, marked the appearance of the new set, completed in 1891.

Of all the issues of little Lagos, as the Ethiopian cutting a caper at a cake-

walk said, "This here am takes the cake, boss," the new set trotted forth resplendently bicolored and containing two new denominations. It consisted of 2p lilac and blue, $2\frac{1}{2}$ p blue, 3p lilac and brown, 4p lilac and black, 6p lilac and purple, 1sh green and black, 2sh 6p green and carmine, 5sh green and blue, 10sh green and brown.

The year of grace 1892 ushered a novelty into the postal existence of Lagos. Being short of $\frac{1}{2}$ p stamps, the Government issued the first and only surcharged stamp that can be credited to this now interesting island. A quantity of the 4p lilacs of 1885 were surcharged half-penny and a bar in black. A few of the stamps, no doubt through the carelessness of the printer in not placing the sheets in straight, received a double surcharge.

The need of a few more values brought forth in 1894 5p lilac and green, $7\frac{1}{2}$ p lilac and carmine, 10p lilac and yellow.

The 2p blue registration envelope of 1895 marks the closing epoch of this short but highly-interesting career.

Of varieties Lagos has given us only four distinct ones. In the 1874-'75 issue the value of the 3p was printed on some of the stamps in chestnut, and of the 6p in yellow green; the size of the value of the 1sh of the same issue is found 1mm. larger than regularly, being $16\frac{1}{2}$ mm. instead of $15\frac{1}{2}$ mm. The double surcharge of 1892 has already been mentioned.

Truly a neatly arranged page of the stamps of Lagos is a sight well worth seeing, and a full collection of these interesting stamps is a thing well worth possessing. To the honest, hearty, non-monetary collector a well-filled page of

these stamps is highly attractive and equally pleasing; to the collector with an eye to the value of his stamps a few years hence, they are very desirable, and to the professional speculator they are almost a sure thing.

News of the Month.

BY AMY L. SWIFT.

THE first month in a new house is apt to be somewhat unsettled, so regarding the STAMP EXCHANGE as the new house and this department as one of the folks trying to get settled in it, it will perhaps not be wholly strange if our news goes rather more than a month back in some cases; hereafter we will try to keep within bounds, giving only the items of interest which have been noted since our last appearance, items which are not likely to be thoroughly well known to those who see only a few of our philatelic journals.

Canada seems to be the chief centre of new things these days, some of her latest and most objectionable doings being to surcharge her 3c envelopes and letter cards with a big "2c," and to cut up her 3c postage stamps into 2-3 and 1-3 pieces, overprinting them respectively "2" and "1." Three-cent pictures are not of much use up there since the ever-stirring postmaster-general (he does not deserve to have his title written with capital letters!) bethought himself to change the local rate for first-class mail matter from 3c to 2c, so that it was necessary to invent some method which should prevent their being wasted. The plan selected is, however, certainly not creditable, for it is evidence of even greater total

depravity than we believed our neighbor capable of, more especially as hand stamps or anything that chanced to lie handy were utilized to do the surcharging, so that there are almost as many "varieties" as there are philatelic ideas in the Mulock brain.

They have a so-called "error" too, the 2c envelope printed in purple instead of red. How many were issued in the purple shade seems problematical as yet, one authority saying 10,000 while another says 3,000. The former figures are most likely to be nearest the truth. The majority were gobbled up by dealers and speculators before the general public knew they were out, for in most places they were not on sale at all, and in others only a few hours. Prices asked vary from 65c to \$1.50, and the collectors, who ought to have had a fair chance to buy them at their own post-offices, must either encourage further speculation by paying the outrageous price demanded or go without altogether.

Our own new 2c envelopes are rather troublesome too, for, exclusive of two watermarks and various colors of paper, there are two dies to be hunted up. In the rarest, known as Die A, there are 39 points in the inner frame and 71 in the outer, the CE of "CENTS" are too close together, the front point of the bust is rounded and points to the space between the shield and the first point of the inner frame, and the end of the queue is narrow, terminating in a sharp point. Die B has 41 points in the inner and 73 in the outer frame, the CE of "CENTS" are correctly spaced, the front point of the bust is sharper and points to the second point of the inner frame, and

the queue lacks the sharp little point of finish. Die A on unused envelopes without the special request in the corner is said to be more valuable than those with the request. This is pushing varieties very far; the first thing we know we shall be expected to collect as different all the "special requests" of each city, town, corporation and individual in the United States or elsewhere, and big prices will be demanded for those limited in number of issue. In the name of common-sense, why should there be any difference in value between unused envelopes printed with a return request and those which are not? Do let us be sensible in our "varieties"!

If only Christopher Columbus had been considerate enough to have died and been buried at sea during his last voyage we Philatelists would owe him a vote of thanks. We have bought stamps to celebrate the anniversaries of every discovery he was thoughtless enough to make, and shortly the Dominican Republic is going to ask us to bury his bones in a magnificent tomb which they will erect, and expect us to pay for, through our purchases of the gorgeous set they propose to issue for the purpose. Spain will doubtless come forward with a similar proposition when she understands what is going on, for she too has a set of bones which she claims were formerly the property of Mr. C. C. (who must have been an extraordinarily bone-y gentleman if he really owned both sets), and of course she will want as much honor done to her share of his belongings as is done to any other part of his anatomy. When *will* we stamp lovers hear the last of Columbus?

There is a shade in our current 2c stamp that should be watched for, and saved whenever found. It is a shade, but is said to have been made by an error in mixing the ink for printing, so that it is a properly authorized official variety. The color is hard to describe, but is much more red in tint than the commonly seen carmine; some have named it "vermilion." While not at all rare, for there must have been millions of them printed, it is yet scarce enough to suggest that it will be a good stamp by and by, especially for purposes of foreign exchange.

Cogitations.

BY HENRY A. CHAPMAN.

SOME time since my friend Tucker informed me he was to publish a monthly in April. Would I not contribute? Being pretty busy already, I deliberated, but finally consented. I trust he will make THE STAMP EXCHANGE a success. It worries some people if Yours Truly advocates promptness, and Philately's funny man (?) thinks it remarkable if I can write a column without referring to journals a month late. A month late is bad enough, but when a journal appears two months late, and every issue pleads sickness or storm as an excuse, it gets tedious, and I shall harp on this particular theme till doomsday if I see fit. I trust friend Tucker will consider his advertisers' feelings and never be late.

A REVIEW is a good thing if well conducted, but good reviewers are not found every day. I do not blame philatelic scribes for raking them over

sometimes, but I was amused at an article lately on their ineligibility by a writer who furnishes the same items to numbers of journals, and expects good pay from each. Judge not that ye be not judged! Give everybody something as much different as possible, which is the fairest way.

IN *The Eastern Philatelist* for February Editor Smiley wrote anent the Xmas stamp: "It signalizes a postal triumph which means much to the greatest of commercial and letter-writing people. . . . It paints in unmistakable color the breadth and scope of Anglo-Saxon influence in the world — an influence which has done more in the last century to change the look of Mercator's map than any other, and a power which will probably continue to hold the reins of destiny for many years to come."

HAS not Canada of late done much to vex the collector in many ways? After using the same designs many years, on the occasion of Queen Victoria's being sixty years on the throne came the Jubilee issues, with certain stamps that could never be obtained at face; the maple-leaf issues were next in order, but the French population was too ignorant (?) to tell them apart, so numerals must take the place of leaves; a horrible looking 3c envelope stamp appeared, which, owing to change of letter rates, has a big hand-stamped 2c on it, "skew-geed" in all directions (minor varieties?). The Xmas commemorative issue has varieties in all the rainbow colors, or nearly. The new 2c envelope appeared in purple to the number of 10,000 before it was de-

clared an error, to be replaced by the regulation color. The 3c numeral will be dropped out and a new 4c will be issued; the purple 2c will give way to the 2c red ere long, but in the meantime has several shades of color. Newfoundland is not exactly Canada, but is nearly so, and has been changing colors at quite a lively rate, and the 3c slate of 1890-'95 appears in nearly a dozen different shades. If you like shades these are worthy of your attention, for they are certainly beautiful, and may nearly all be obtained at slight cost.

ONE of the most absurd thrusts is that of a writer who thinks clergymen are not successful as publishers. Perhaps not in Philately, but they have been in other lines of business. The writer is the son of a reverend publisher, who brought out six different books, and they were classed as of the best in their way. If some of our philatelic clerical brethren have slipped up it is because of their ill-advised expressions, which have recoiled on them in the nature of a boomerang. One clerical writer, under cover of a nom-de-plume, although saying much that is meritorious, has made some foolish breaks which will not be forgotten in a hurry.

A Query.

I HAVE no intention to find fault with that indispensable article, Scott's Catalogue, but I would like to propound a question regarding the dates given therein for the various stamp issues.

Take, for instance, the space devoted to Sweden. We are informed that an issue was made in 1855, and the next

in 1858. Again, an issue was made in 1865-'66, and no more until 1872. Are we to suppose that the good people of Sweden did without stamps during the intervening five years? Or did they print enough stamps in 1865-'66 to last until 1872? If so, why is the 17öre lilac so rare?

I think the catalogue should in some way explain what stamps were used during the years not represented in the book. If the stamps of one year's printing are used for a period of following years, should not the time of their issue be extended until another issue replaces them? Who can explain?

HERBERT IREY WATTS.

Plain Questions on Philately.

BY B. G. MCFALL.

It is ten years since I became interested in the collecting of stamps; it will be as many more, again and again, if I live, that the recollection of my introduction to Philately will be painted, a vivid picture, upon my memory.

I have wandered through the pleasures and displeasures of the beginner, through the trials and triumphs of the Philatelist, and now I begin in memory to review that eventful career of a dealer.

And who is or has not been led, not always by choice, to become a dealer, inasmuch as the increase of duplicates and the ridding one's self of them makes or has made you such?

Dealers are to Philately what a merchant is to a community, an absolute necessity; but were every one to become his own merchant what would the outcome be?

The catching advertisements which offer unprecedented values for little money lure the collector to invest, that he may sell again and again by so doing; that is fair, a businesslike method; but what about the one who repurchases the bulk of that purchase in his collection?

If that purchase which is listed in our "Standard" catalogue at \$10 is offered at \$2.00 and resold at 50 per cent. discount, now isn't there something radically wrong somewhere?

The one great evil lurks like a crouching monster within the so-called "Standard" catalogue, and unless he is driven out by overpowering and calm-minded Philatelists he will burst his bonds and spread destruction and chaos in his path—and he came very near doing so too not more than a fourth score years ago.

Answer, my friends: Can any business or any transaction be of sterling worth unless based upon a firm basis?

Why do we accept the *selling* prices of stamps as the standard of their value, knowing full well that 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. of that is their real value?

For instance, a dealer makes up a sheet of United States stamps upon which he is to allow 50 per cent. discount: he puts on an array including probably such as the 5c 1847, 10c 1851, 24c 1861, etc., and then an unused 30c Columbian is mounted.

All are marked at *Standard* prices, to be sold at one-half of *their Standard value*—price—but hold! that unused Columbian—the dealer pauses—it is listed at but 50c; 50 per cent. on that would bring it below its face value; that must be priced in advance of the

Standard list price or there will be a loss.

The collector to whom the selection is sent selects what he desires, but pauses at the stamp *marked above catalogue price*, even though the net value be but a few cents over its face value.

Without considering this point, the selection is returned and the dealer is informed that stamps marked above the *Standard* price will find no sale there.

Is not the collector right?

Is not the dealer honest in his intentions?

Yes; but the 50 per cent. which perhaps the dealer has used as an advertising attraction, as so many do, has proved the cause of the misunderstanding.

Let us revolutionize this defrauding system, let us eradicate the 50 per cent. discount and mark stamps for sale at nearer their correct value.

Why do the compilers of our *Standard* price-list sell their stamps from the book at net prices and from their approval sheets at from 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. discount?

This should not be so: the expensive items of postage, registration and the risk of having the stamps in other people's hands should make it an advantage to the dealer to offer greater bargains from his price-lists than from his sheets.

I do not believe there is a Philatelist in the world who would not be satisfied with 25 per cent., when he realizes that if he sells stamps to his friends at twice their real value he is defrauding them to that extent.

If you are an agent and sell many

stamps you may complain at the foregoing remark, but I dare say that if the stamps were marked lower your sales would be greater; and, again, why cannot you buy packets, make up your sheets if your customers be not advanced, and form the foundation of a legitimate business by yourself?

Give me a *Standard* catalogue compiled by those who are not frightened at the real value of stamps, and I will eradicate nine-tenths of the evils of our system.

Take the Seebecks: can any one tell me why the higher values should be worth more than the lower ones, when *not one of them was ever within the boundaries of the country they represent*?

Would the President of Salvador appoint an American citizen as representative to the United States?

No; then why should we accept, as a representative of that country, stamps which are engraved, printed and *sold* in the city of New York? I would rather repose in my collection a mutilated, torn, worn, or creased specimen of N. F. Seebeck's charity issues that had done duty than the most handsome engravings he can turn out that *represent* the postal issues of a country, and I predict that blanks or star-marked figures will some time represent the *value* of unused Seebeck pictures,—the star pointing to an explanation,—that these stamps were of no postal value, and will serve only to fill blank spaces until genuine postally-used specimens can be obtained.

A gala day for Philately is coming, but there are clouds yet obscuring the horizon; help to brush them away, Philatelists.

The Stamps of Norway.

BY HERBERT I. WATTS.

VERY much interesting material for study is afforded by the postal issues of Norway. This is one recommendation for these stamps; another is, that of all we can point out among them, none are speculative. Commencing with the 1856-'57 issue, we find a number of marked varieties of paper. Each of the four stamps comprising this set may be found on two kinds of paper, viz, a thick smooth paper and a thin hard paper, sometimes bearing evidence of being the so-called "ribbed" paper. All the imperforated specimens of the four-shilling that I have ever seen are on this thin paper.

In the issue of 1863-'66 we may get a splendid range of shade, especially in the four and twenty-four shilling stamps. The four-shilling runs from a pale blue to a very deep, dull color. It requires about six specimens to properly display the gradual but marked change in the color of this stamp.

The emission of 1867-'68 is not so prolific in shades but is found on two grades of paper, — thick and thin.

Skiping the 1872-'75 issue, the varieties of which are properly described in the latest catalogues, we will take up the krona stamps of the 1877-'78 issue. An inspection of the 1kr and 1kr 50öre stamps will convince any one that the plates were made from two separate dies. One composed the outer portion or frame; the other the head in centre. A correspondent of mine in Christiania informs me that it was the intention to print this set in two colors, hence two dies were made;

but for some reason the project was only carried out in the two-krona stamp. In making the plates for the other two, the first die, representing the frame, was first impressed on the plate and afterwards followed by the second die. On account of this, specimens may be found in which the second die is incorrectly placed, the result being that the head laps over on one side, or end, upon the frame.

In the 1883-'84 set the 3öre appears with two varieties of figure in the label surrounding the central figure. This set has several varieties of perforation in certain values, but at this date my investigations have not progressed far enough for me to make an accurate report.

Philatelic Philosophy.

BY ZURA.

WHAT is postponed grows more difficult to do: why not fill in your blank spaces while the price is within your reach? Let the recent issues take care of themselves.

THE oddities and errors of to-day are made by design, those of long ago by accident; it is easy to see which is worth the most.

THEY say that a three-cornered thing will not fit a square hole; when you look over your duplicate 3 centers of '61, pick out the rose variety and fit it into the square calling for a 3c pink, don't you think your specimen looks three-cornered?

ONE-HALF of the world is busy all the time contriving how it shall deceive

Empire State Musings.

BY LEON V. CASS.

THERE is no doubt but that the current high-value United States stamps are priced too high and the 50c, \$1.00 and \$2.00 values will be priced much lower in the 59th edition catalogue. Many dealers are quietly unloading high-value postage and current revenues, and collectors who wait a few months will be able to buy much lower.

THE map stamp of Canada has appeared in many different varieties of shade, ranging from light lavender to dark sea-green, and collectors are laying aside as many of them as they can lay hands on. The first shade, lavender, brings as high as 12 cents per copy unused. As I write this I learn that the 2c "map" is coming printed in the first color (lavender), although the report may prove untrue.

GOOD hinges are the best in all cases, but poor hinges are worse than useless, as they are a thorn in every collector's path.

First-class die-cut hinges are very cheap in these last days of the nineteenth century, and a collector who uses home-made or heavy perforated hinges is penny-wise and pound-foolish.

Now comes the announcement that Porto Rico is to have stamps, and the current U. S. will again appear with surcharge, also that the Philippine Islands and Hawaii will probably have stamps of their own.

It is reported that the current 2c brown of Hawaii has appeared in pink.

the other half; does any one think of this when he changes the heavily cancelled stamp in his book for that from some kind friend's approval sheet?

THE Canadian Notes in the philatelic journals of this country are like a spring: they all start from the ground; but it is a puzzle for a subscriber to discover which journal's notes appear first.

CARDBOARD proofs will make more showing in your album, especially in regard to thickness, than anything else I know of.

Now that the Government is selling periodical stamps so cheap to accommodate the stamp collector it had better sell current postage at 50 per cent. discount and thus oblige the general public.

THE true collector is an enigma: he values stamps more before he has them, and after he has sold them more than he did when he had them.

THE inscriptions on some stamps after they are cancelled are at their best. The people of Canada have the longest "Xmas" I ever heard of.

THERE are more used "Labuan" stamps on the approval sheets of dealers and collectors in this country than the post-office employees in Labuan could cancel in a lifetime. To keep up the colonial revenue it pays to hire foreigners to do this work for them.

It is a disputed question as to whether the natives of the Indian States live on stamps or not. Many seen in this country of late look as though they had been cooked.

FOR the last eighteen months I have read in several different papers that the 10c orange '93 issue special delivery stamp, unused, was a good stamp to invest in, and yet a week or two ago I read the advertisement of a prominent dealer who offered these stamps in unused, mint condition at face value.

Query. — Are these stamps a paying investment?

THE writer is still receiving unused Columbians in payment for stamps, but "Omahas" are, at present, the least seldom seen. No doubt all unused copies are jealously guarded by their owners.

THE stamp business seems to be picking up all over the country, and boy collectors are again coming to the fore. Let us hope dealers will not deluge them with reprints and kindred trash.

WHILE looking over an old almanac of 1850 I noticed the following, which I herewith give, thinking it may prove of interest to collectors in general:

Post-office statistics for the year ending June 30, 1848: number of post-offices supplied, 16,159; extent of mail routes, 163,208 miles; annual transportation, 41,012,579 miles; receipts, \$4,371,077; expenditures, \$4,198,845.

The same almanac states rates of postage at that time (1850) as follows: letters not exceeding one half ounce, not over 300 miles, 5 cents; over 300 miles, 10 cents; postage per letter not exceeding half-ounce to Great Britain, 24 cents.

SUBSCRIBE AT ONCE.

Williams & Co.

THE *Perforator* is in receipt of the following letter from Mr. Reginald C. Farrant in regard to the case of Williams & Co. As per request, we give copy of same:

CASILLA, 209, LIMA, PERU,
February 11, 1899.

DEAR SIR:—On 1st January Mr. Casnough (Williams & Co.) wrote me a letter from Chosica (30 miles inland) stating he had gone to Chosica for a trip and enclosing the key of his P. O. box, asking me to do him the favor to collect and hold his mails until his return. It is now over a month since he wrote and no trace of him can be found, and as I have in my possession some hundreds of letters, registered and ordinary, I consider it my duty to take steps to return them to their owners.

If you will kindly publish this in your magazine I will return all letters received here on or after Jan. 2d on receipt of return postage. I am not in a position to return such a number of letters at my own expense.

I would esteem it a great favor if other philatelic journals will copy this letter, so that all may get their letters back. For the benefit of and in the interests of Philatelists in all parts of the world, I would be glad if you will give this notice a prominent position.

I remain yours truly,
REGINALD C. FARRANT.

OMAHA stamps and the maple-leaf issue of Canada seem to be in such demand that I give below the number of each value issued. The numbers may vary slightly as I only give the number given in official reports:

OMAHA EXPOSITION.		CANADA MAPLE LEAF.	
1c green . . .	70,938,700	½c black . . .	2,000,000
2c red . . .	159,453,300	1c green . . .	34,000,000
4c orange . . .	4,918,200	2c purple . . .	12,000,000
5c blue . . .	7,690,780	3c red . . .	41,000,000
8c brown . . .	2,923,900	5c blue . . .	3,500,000
10c violet . . .	4,924,360	6c chocolate . . .	500,000
50c green . . .	530,100	8c orange . . .	1,400,000
\$1.00 black . . .	56,790	10c violet . . .	500,000
\$2.00 org. br. . .	56,080		

— PERFORATOR.

The Stamp Exchange.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY IN THE
INTEREST OF PHILATELY
at Boston, Mass.

RALPH W. TUCKER, EDITOR & PUBLISHER.
Box 3276, Boston, Mass.

HENRY A. CHAPMAN, REVIEW EDITOR.
Box 72, Rocky Hill, Conn.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

United States, Canada and Mexico, per year, 20c.
All other countries per year 35c.
Subscription must begin with current number.

ADVERTISING RATES.

STRICTLY CASH IN ADVANCE WITH COPY.

1 inch	\$.75	¼ page	\$2.35
2 inches	1.40	½ page	4.50
3 inches	2.00	1 page	8.50

Rates for cover given on application.
Make money order or check payable to
Ralph W. Tucker, Boston, Mass. We are not
responsible for remittances lost in the mail.
Unused stamps, full gum, taken in payment
for subscriptions only.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

IN CASE of change of address please notify
us and send former and new address.

ALL COPY must reach us before the first day
of each month.

ADDRESS all communications to "THE STAMP
EXCHANGE."

R. W. TUCKER, Publisher.
Box 3276. Boston, Mass.
We shall prove our Circulation each Month.

This space will be occupied each month by a copy of the receipt given us by the postmaster, for the mailing of our journal. Keep your eye on these lines and see that our guaranteed circulation is just as we promise.

Editorial.

ANY one wishing good "ad" space should communicate with us at once. Cover rates will also be given to those who desire them. Contract advertisements will receive our best attention, and advertisers will do well to write at once, as space is being rapidly engaged. Owing to our large "guaranteed" circulation, every one is benefiting thereby, and those who are slow will surely be shut out.

THE words "sample copy" stamped on the wrapper signify that either you are respectfully requested to subscribe, or else your subscription has run its full time, and a renewal is necessary. Please bear this in mind. Those who are fortunate enough to receive this number free should subscribe at once, as a second copy will not be forthcoming. After reading, judge for yourselves whether THE STAMP EXCHANGE is worth 20 cents of your pocket money. We shall not devote three or four columns of each number to the "blowing of our horn" (an expression commonly used by philatelic journals), but we shall leave it for you to decide of the merits of our paper.

WE shall make it a point not to "call down" any of our contemporaries whenever the opportunity offers, as is the pleasure of many editors; for this is more or less of a sign that the abuser is jealous of another person's writings, or something in that direction. A suggestion, we think, would cause no ill feeling; and *we* are at all times *ready* to receive such. Bear this in mind, and write when the opportunity offers.

WE hope that all publishers will favor us with an exchange of two copies each month — one of which kindly send to the publisher, the other to our review editor. We should also like very much to make arrangements with all journals such as we have not yet corresponded with to exchange small "ad" space of one or two inches.

WE shall hereafter announce in advance such articles as will be of special importance and interest. Arrangements are now being made with a few of the "\$10-a-page" contributors, and we hope to have one or two such manuscripts in each number as a special attraction.

THE new obsolete periodical stamps, which arrived in Boston but a few days ago, have nearly all of them been sold; but one-fourth of the supply remains at the present writing, and new orders are coming so fast that the superintendent of the post-office says that the entire supply is likely to be disposed of in a few days. At present, nearly the whole of New England is supplied from the Boston office, as the small amounts sent to some of the larger offices have already been sold. We are informed from Concord, N. H., that the 100 sets placed on sale there were disposed of within twenty-four hours, as there were 100 collectors in that place who had \$5.00 to spare. Small supplies were sent also to Lowell, Worcester, Salem and other cities of this population.

The Government did not anticipate such a general demand for these stamps when it decided to sell them; circulars have been issued to the effect that if by December 31 of this year they are

not disposed of the sale shall be discontinued and the remaining stamps called in by the department.

We doubt if a further supply of these stamps is received in Boston after the present stock is exhausted. About four thousand sets were received in all. Those who were fortunate enough not to have the ready money a year ago when so much more was asked for these stamps can now rejoice that there was a time when if they had had the money they would have lost so much outright.

WE notice that Williams & Co. have "flued the coop." It does not surprise us at all, for ever since our last dealings with them about a year ago, in which they thought they had the upper hand, and when we came out considerably ahead, we have taken special pains to have no further correspondence with them; they wished to pay us to keep still, but up to the present time we have done so "without drawing any salary for it."

UNITED STATES POSTAGE RATES FOR CUBA, APRIL 1.

HAVANA, March 26th. — Director-General of Posts Rathbone has ordered the adoption in Cuba, on April 1st, of the postage rates now in force in the United States. The present Cuban domestic rate is three cents a half-ounce, and the carriers collect the money. In ten of the largest towns, beginning April 1st, a free delivery will be established with salaried letter carriers.

This afternoon a meeting was held at the Payret Theatre to promote the organization of the so-called Cuban National Party; there was only a small attendance.

Our Contemporaries.

DEPARTMENT CONDUCTED BY H. A. CHAPMAN.

JOURNALS desiring notice under this head are requested to mail one copy expressly for THE STAMP EXCHANGE, Box 484, Hartford, Conn.

HAVING been requested to take charge of this department, it will be my intention to criticise in a fair manner the different journals received, giving excerpts from them when considered worthy, with a view to creating an interest in our neighbors, while benefiting the readers of this journal.

THE March *American Journal of Philately* leads off with a declaration that four of the periodicals were reprinted, and remarks:

On a previous occasion we have expressed our opinion that this action on the part of the Government was unwise, and we have seen no arguments advanced to alter or modify in any particular the opinion thus expressed. We do not believe in speculation in stamps when indulged in by governments, and certainly one standing as high as that of the United States should keep its skirts clear of the taint resulting from such transactions.

Of course this journal could not be expected to favor the plan adopted by the Government.

In Our English Letter Mr. Nankivell fills space for nine pages. He calls attention to the faulty perforation of the company employed by Uncle Sam, which can't touch the English work, don't-cher-know, and he is rather slangy, thus: "Come, shake a paw, and admit that you ain't in it this time." He alludes amusingly to the door-to-door system of collecting, and reckons it won't be long before the

authorities will send along stenographer and typist to do the letter-writing. He makes this pointed remark:

A collector who confines himself to common stamps, especially in the used condition, must not expect his collection to rank as an investment. It is mostly high and uncommon values that appreciate, more particularly in the unused condition.

He argues against mended stamps with good reason, but they will always be preserved for want of better. The writer of these notes prefers a clean-looking stamp nicely repaired to a whole one plastered over with one of those infernal British cancellations. He makes use of the term "condition crank," which has become quite a classical one.

IN the March *Evergreen State Philatelist* "Era," as usual, has the most useful article. He has a word to say anent the periodical stamps:

With the exception of some few dealers, who have picked up specimens on which they may not be able to realize their investment, everybody is satisfied with the decision of the department to sell the periodical stamps at \$5.00 per set.

NOTWITHSTANDING all the jeering by the self-styled Philatelists at the general collectors, because they keep "picture labels," the latter do not care a rap if they do have one, two or three periodical stamps of the late printing. The writer has put his set under glass, and wouldn't take \$15 for it to-day. Mr. Bartels well says in *The Metropolitan Philatelist* for March 18th:

The question whether the Government had sufficient specimens of all denominations on hand to make up the required number of sets, or whether a

few of the plates had to go to press again in order to make up the deficiency, seems to be agitating the minds of some. This should be a matter of little importance, but there are always some who would like to make a mountain out of a mole-hill. The fact that one printing was made a few months later than another, when nothing was left undone to have the colors, paper and gum as nearly matched as possible, should make no difference to any ordinary collector of stamps.

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain (March 10th) has an editorial on "Postal Anomalies," giving a rap at the English Post-office Department for the inequalities of postal charges which would fit other countries as well:

Why one publisher should pay a half-penny for the postage of his paper or journal, whether the weight thereof is half an ounce or one pound, and another a halfpenny for every two ounces, does not seem quite clear to us, yet such is the case. How illogical this preference of some papers over others is can be seen best when compared with the present postal rate on letters. Under it newspapers are treated on a par with letters—an absurd idea, which does not exist and would not exist long in any other civilized country. Why some papers have to pay the same postage for the same weight for being delivered ten miles from the publishing office or 10,000 miles is a puzzle which we leave to the postal authorities to solve.

It is quite evident that some alteration is needed, and we hope the public will support us in our endeavor to prevent a flourishing industry in this country being strangled by the red tape of officialdom.

"SOCIETY Evils and Reforms," by Irving E. Patterson, is a good article in *The Philatelic Advocate* for March. He alludes to the fact that many think all members should be allowed all privi-

leges, holding office, etc., regardless of age. The writer of these notes agrees with Mr. P. that members should be of suitable age before holding office, and also thinks that no one under twenty-one should be appointed to positions where they are the custodians of the society's funds.

The Herald Exchange is unique in having a style and form of make-up of its own, with a certain part printed in German. It congratulates itself on being "bit" only 65 cents by Williams & Co. Dr. Cottlow always gives something sensible in his "Chicago Notes," and says:

I would suggest that revenue collectors be in not too much of a hurry to pay high prices for the \$ value denominations. The first year of their use is but a little more than half over, and we cannot expect much of a supply of them until a year or more yet, when many of the various policies, etc., will have expired and become void. . . . So, I say, don't be in too much of a hurry to pay fancy prices for these stamps, as they will certainly go lower in time.

But—we foolish mortals do hate to WAIT!

FATHER SCOTT wound up a recent editorial concerning the periodical stamps thus in his *Metropolitan Philatelist*:

In conclusion, the case can be summed up as follows: (1) The Government has made a clear quarter of a million dollars in cash. (2) It has made fifty thousand collectors happy. (3) It has created a great boom in the stamp business. For which blessings, good citizens and patriotic collectors should be truly thankful.

The Virginia Philatelist, for the breezy month just passed, has many good things, and, under "Let's Capitalize It," is hilarious:

Some time ago an esteemed contemporary indulged in a discussion anent the question whether "Philately" should be spelled with a capital P or not. We think since our "hobby" has been elevated to a "science" it should be "cap'd." This is no challenge for a discussion; nor need any chronic "comp" "pull Webster" on us, for here we'll differ with "the oracle."

L. H. BENTON has what he calls a "philatelic novelette," entitled "What Kelly Did," and his clever skit may be fiction, but we are inclined to think there is some truth in it after all. Fred W. Burt, in "Even Exchange," gives his experience with foreign collectors, who wish all the plums in return for a few measly continentals.

In the March *Perforator* the leading article is by C. E. Range, "How to Arrange a Stamp Collection"; which we all know is perplexing. He does not believe in the miserly habit of some people, who keep their collections locked up and act as though they were afraid somebody would get a free peek at some choice stamps, but he believes in making them attractive to non-Philatelists. He, being a Missourian, of course hopes St. Louis will have commemorative stamps in 1903. Mr. Range is evidently one of that sensible class who do not believe in having the blinds shut to keep the sun from handsome carpets, where the moths are getting in their work.

READ all "ads" carefully; many bargains.

New York Notes.

BY GOTHAM.

DEALERS here are well satisfied with the trade at present, and the former kick against poor business is no longer heard. It is a noticeable fact that the boy trade is again at its height. The dealers are doing their utmost to encourage the "boys" and keep up their ardor. There is a great demand for the medium grade of foreign stamps, catalogued from twenty-five cents to one dollar. The war revenues are also ready sellers. The periodical stamps did not last long at the post-office in this city. They were placed on sale Saturday, February 25th, and by Monday noon they were exhausted. It is said that many parties not interested in Philately bought up large quantities of the stamps for speculative purposes. At the present writing complete sets can be purchased at a reasonable figure in this city. One dealer displays them in his case \$5.50 per set for fairly good specimens. As the higher values were reprinted by the Government in order to complete the 50,000 sets, those having a complete set of the originals are indeed fortunate. The \$5.00 of the original printing will prove a very valuable stamp.

PHILATELISTS are certainly a liberal class of people. They help sustain many governments and actually support several who have to rely on their postal revenue for maintenance. If our Government is badly in need of \$250,000 all they have to do is to get together a lot of stamps that were never available for postage and place them on sale at

the different post-offices throughout the United States, and they can easily rake in the cash of the Philatelists. The following clipping from the New York *World* will show how the quick sale of the periodicals surprised the Government officials:—

\$250,000 FROM PHILATELISTS.

WASHINGTON, March 22d.—The Post-office Department has practically disposed of the 50,000 sets of newspaper and periodical stamps, which were sold to collectors at \$5 a set.

When first placed on sale, February 15th, it was doubted if purchasers would be found. It is now regretted by officials that more sets were not placed on sale, but it was stated that the number would be limited to 50,000, and Uncle Sam will keep his word.

JUST as if we hadn't troubles enough of our own, the following from a New York daily appears to startle us:

POSTAL SWINDLERS MAY BE ON THE WAY HERE.

BERLIN, March 19th.—The *Reichsanzeiger* to-day warns the public against two postal stamp swindlers.

The paper says that warrants have been issued for the arrest of the men, who are known by the public respectively as George von Hagen and George von Dubraka.

The former claims to hail from Rio Janeiro and the latter purports to be an engineer from Algiers. The police record shows that their swindling operations have not been confined to Germany.

They have sold bogus postal stamps of all lands by the thousands, and after defrauding a number of merchants in Berlin they have left here, and it is believed have gone to America under assumed names.

The New York *Evening World* for March 21st contained an enlarged illustration of the new stamps issued for Virgin Islands.

THE "I told you So's" are very much in evidence here whenever the firm of Williams & Co. is mentioned. We doubt if there is a dealer in this city who did not receive a request from this "firm" for stamps on approval. In many cases they sent a "want list" of rare stamps for which they claimed they had a ready market and could easily dispose of them if sent on approval at reasonable prices. We know of a few dealers who eagerly grasped at the bait so neatly offered. The wise ones who didn't "bite" are wearing broad smiles whenever the subject of W. & Co. is mentioned. Let it not be imagined that they fleeced only dealers here. They have creditors in many climes, including a large number of publishers of philatelic journals.

WE are indeed sorry for Mr. J. F. Dodge in connection with the Williams affair. The "firm" also owes him quite a sum, but that is not the worst of it. Some people actually think that he acted as their agent and representative. Such is not the case and it places Mr. Dodge in an unfavorable position. However all Philatelists who are acquainted with Mr. D. know different.

THE higher values of the Omaha set are still on sale at the general post-office here.

THE following clippings are taken from the New York *Times*:

THE MAIL IN PUERTO RICO.

WASHINGTON, March 22d.—Acting Postmaster-General Heath to-day received a personal letter from Capt. W. H. Elliott, Director of Posts of Puerto Rico, relating experiences on an official tour of the island

which he has just completed. Director Elliott states that the people were incredulous when he told them that sealed letters would be sacred in the mails, and that any one who meddled with mail in transit or in possession of the Government would be severely punished. He says the Puerto Ricans entrust to the mails only unimportant letters, never mailing any matter regarded as private or valuable, as the mails have frequently been rifled.

The municipal authorities in the island, Captain Elliott reports, regard their relief from the trouble and expense of carrying the mails as the greatest blessing. They have been compelled to carry the mails without compensation, as a sort of interchange of governmental courtesy—an imposition required by the general laws of the island.

THE MAILS AT SKAGUAY.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 22d.—The reports from Skaguay that tons of mail are being lost or destroyed at that place, and that Canadian mail-carriers refuse to handle the letters unless they bear Canadian postage, is emphatically denied by Assistant Superintendent Harry Lewis, of the Railway Mail Service. He admits that a large amount of mail accumulated at Skaguay during the winter months, and it was impossible to get over the summit in February. Three carriers are already on their way to Tana on the Yukon, by way of Skaguay, Dawson, Circle City, Forty Mile, and other camps.

Mr. Lewis says the Canadian postal authorities have never refused to afford every facility for the dispatch of letters going through their territory.

Notice!

To the first fifty persons sending 20 cents subscription and names of two friend collectors we will send the following fine specimens: Catalogue at 32c, 2c Blue Express, 3c Proprietary, 5c Foreign Exchange, 50c Life Insurance. (You must send stamped envelope.) THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

AN UNUSED STAMP FREE!!!

To everybody sending for a copy of my Price List I will send free of charge An Unused Stamp. My price list is full of tempting offers, and as it has been decided that the '97-98 edition of Scott's Catalogue will remain current during '98-99 my prices will stand the same in '97 list until further notice.

C. E. HUSSMAN,
Rooms 420-421 Fullerton Building, St. Louis, Mo.

FOR ONE DOLLAR

I will send, postpaid, 1 complete file of the Badger State Philatelist (21 numbers, in fine condition; published during '87, '88 and '89), worth.....\$0.50
3,000 fine stamp hinges, worth......25
A fine, used copy, 50c. Omaha, worth......50
Send early as supply is limited to \$1.25
20 sets. Stamps on approval. Address
N. E. CARTER, Delavan, Wis.

ALBUM Containing STAMPS FREE

To every collector. 100,000 albums and 3 bbls. of stamps to be given away. Send name on postal. We also give every new agent a beautiful illustrated album. 50 per cent com. 105 Indo-China, etc., album, hinge paper and cata., all for 5c. 500 games, tricks, etc., and paper 3 mos. with stamp news, stories and puzzles, 10c. Bargain Cat's Free. A. BULLARD & CO., Sta. A, Boston, Mass.

BRIGHT - NEWSY - PROMPT - ORIGINAL.

The New York Philatelist,

Issued on the 15th of each month. Subscription 25c. per year. Sample copy free. An "ad." medium that pays. Address

THE NEW YORK PHILATELIST,
106 East 111th St., New York City.

The Allegheny Philatelist,

ALLEGHENY, PA.

The only one of its kind.
On trial for the next ten months for a SILVER DIME.

SAY! HAVE YOU HEARD

of the great Prize Contest now running in the handsome STAMP TRIBUNE? You have n't? Then send at once for a sample copy and learn all the particulars.

DEALERS, DID YOU KNOW that the STAMP TRIBUNE is gaining a large subscription list and that ads. in it pay most handsomely?

You didn't? Then it is time you learn this great fact at once. Send a trial ad. at 40c. per inch, and be convinced.

S. P. LEV, Publisher,
P. O. Box 65, Harriman, Tenn.

TORN STAMPS REPAIRED,

Grease and stains removed, envelope stamps cut to shape, remounted, etc., etc.

Drop postal for schedule of prices.

G. A. HUNT,
WOBURN . . . MASS.

Please mention "The Stamp Exchange."

Our Canadian Page.

BY R. G. WIDDICOMBE.

[NOTE. — I have been engaged by the publisher to furnish Canadian "Stamp News" for this paper each month, and shall endeavor to interest its readers to the best of my ability.]

PHILATELIC JOURNALISM.

CANADA at present has only four philatelic magazines: the *Stamp Reporter*, *Philatelic Advocate*, *Montreal Philatelist* and *Canadian Philatelic Review*, the latter being a semi-monthly. Without doubt the *Philatelic Advocate* is the leader among these. It very rarely has less than sixteen pages and cover, and frequently has more — the January issue consisting of sixty pages. While this magazine, undoubtedly, stands at the head, there is one department which needs some attention. That is the literary part. The articles published are not, on the average, up to the standard they should be, but I trust Messrs. Starnaman Bros. will look after this.

OUR NEW ISSUES.

A GREAT deal has been said already regarding the frequent new issues which have been emanating from Canada of late. However, I think I might comment on them a little.

It is true that "new" stamps have been many during the past two years, but, with one or two exceptions, have they not been perfectly legitimate? Was not a good reason set forth for the changing of the "maple-leaf" issue to the "numeral" set? Was it not quite right to commemorate the inauguration of the greatest postal service

scheme ever set in motion — the Imperial penny post — by the printing of a special 2c stamp? I think you will agree with me that it was.

Many are seemingly convinced that the printing of the 2c envelope in purple was one of Postmaster-General Mulock's schemes for money-making, and I am somewhat of this belief myself. Did he not, well posted in these matters as he is, know that by the Postal Union law such *must* be struck off in red? However it has been done, and, from present appearances, this stamp will soon be very rare; even at present as high as from 75 cents to \$1.25 is being asked for them by many dealers.

GENERAL NEWS.

THE Toronto, Ont., Philatelic Club has elected officers for the year 1898-'99, as follows: President, Wm. Myers; Vice-President, W. J. Porter; Treasurer, Chas. Bailey; Secretary, John H. Lowe; Sales Superintendent, Chas. Marden; Librarian, W. A. Lydiatt. The Club meets every Tuesday evening, at its own rooms.

It is expected that two more Canadian stamps, of 4c and 7c denominations, will shortly appear, the former for double postage, and the 7c for registration.

A NEW Canadian stamp paper was announced to appear from Hamilton, Ont., some time ago, but to date nothing has been seen of it.

THE 3c envelopes and 3c letter cards have appeared surcharged "2." No doubt many varieties will be found among these. Look out for them!

THERE are at least five shades of the 2c Imperial penny-postage stamps. The first one (lavender) is quite scarce.

THE 2c envelope has appeared in red, the design being the same as the former issue — purple. This purple stamp promises to become very rare, as they were only on sale for about three weeks, and not a very large number issued. Five hundred only were received at the office here (St. Catharine's), and, as soon as the news became known that they would be changed, were very quickly bought up. Already as high as from 75 cents to \$1.25 is being asked for them here.

THE demand for all values of the present Canadian stamps is very great, and dealers can sell as fast as they can secure them. The 6c and 10c "maple leaf" are bringing just about face value.

To date, plate numbers 1 and 2 have appeared on the Imperial penny stamp.

TORONTO members of the Dominion Philatelic Association are already at work making arrangements for the Fourth Annual Convention of that Society, which will be held there during the coming summer. An effort will be made to make this meet a record breaker in point of attendance and interest.

THE 5c "numeral" stamp has appeared. This is the last of the "maple leaf" set to be changed, and the latter named issue is now obsolete.

THE price of the $\frac{1}{2}$ c Jubilee has advanced slightly.

ST. CATHARINE'S, Ont., collectors will make a big effort to bring the 1900 D. P. A. meet to that city.

202 STAMPS!

Send two dimes, silver preferred, for 100 varieties, 100 good mixed, one 2-centime Congo (handsomest in the world) and one 2c. Xmas Canada.

Send 13c. for a 2c. Xmas green, 2c. lavender Xmas, 2c. Congo and a nice stamp extra.

Send 25c. for The Stamp Exchange and The Perforator one year; or in place of the latter, Virginia Philatelist, New York Philatelist, Philatelic Bulletin, Philatelic Advocate, Herald Exchange, Montreal Philatelist, Lone Star State Philatelist, Eastern Philatelist, Evergreen State Philatelist.

HENRY A. CHAPMAN,

Box 72,

ROCKY HILL, CONN.

(Mention this Journal).

CONTRACT at once for space if you wish fine returns.

Please mention "The Stamp Exchange."

EXCELSIOR STAMP CO.,

KEYPORT, N. J.

Almost any U. S. at 50% to 70% discount from
Scott's Catalogue.

Send your Want List of U. S.

Eighty Per Cent Discount.

List of Stamps at one-fifth Catalogue, and a
roc. '79 Belgium Postal Packet, catalogued 5
cts., mailed postage free. Address

HENRY P. DAY,

Box 762.

PEORIA, ILL., U. S. A.

GOOD FOREIGN STAMPS

can be obtained through an advertisement in fore-
ign papers. I can place your advertisement in
any paper in Europe or So. America. Transla-
tion of advertisements and letters free. Send for
particulars.

A. BURNHAM,

P. O. Box 2447

New York.

**Around
the World**

FOR 25 CENTS.

You will get a year's subscription and
a 30-word notice, which will reach stamp
dealers and collectors in all parts of the
globe. Special rates to dealers. Stamps
on approval at 50% taken in payment for
ads. Sample copy free.

The All-Around Stamp Advertiser,
717 ST. ANDRE ST., MONTREAL.

101 var. U.S., all fine, only 85c.

My famous "FAST MAIL" packet of 150
var. nice, clean postage stamps.

PRICE, 25 CENTS.

Both of the above packets for \$1.00 bill.

Foreign collectors send 500—100 medium-priced
for same in U. S.
100 2c. Col. env. for 100 for'n env.

Collections Duplicates Wanted. 1-2 to 4-5
cat. paid in ex., or good cash prices.

500 var., all fine, guar. cat., \$10.00, price, \$1.75.
90 var. U. S., no env., rev. or locals, inc. Col.,
Omahas, Dep'ts, dues, etc., \$1.25, to foreign
countries, \$1.40.

B. G. McFALL, P.O.M., S.H.G.,
McKean Co. Eldred, Pa., U.S.A.

1898 Proprietary - Unused.

9 var., 1/8 to 2 1/2 c., unused, o. g. . . . 15c.
12 " 1/8 to 5c., unused, o. g. . . . 29c.
(Add 2c. stamp for postage).

25 var., Foreign stamps, cat. 50c. . . . 9c.
This offer is for a limited time only. Send
orders early.

F. R. SHRADER,

353 WEST 22d ST., NEW YORK CITY.

A FAIR OFFER.

10 Varieties U. S. \$0.02
100 Mixed Dues10
1,000 Mixed U. S. (counted, not weighed)20
1,000 Mixed Foreign20
156 Popular Songs sent in exchange for every
200 cancelled stamps.

J. T. HANDFORD,

29 East 18th Street Paterson, N. J.

REVENUES.

U. S. ('98) Dol., War Revenues, set, 1/2, 1, 2,
3, 4, 5, 10, 25, 50c. and \$1, used, fine, net, 14c.
10 sets, net, \$1.00; 100 sets, net, \$7.50; single
copies, Doc. 40c. for 8c. net; \$3 for
22c. net; \$5 for 25c. net; 5c. Proprietary (old
issue), used, fine, net, 70c.

B. L. VOORHEES. Blue Island, Ill.

EXCHANGERS,

COLLECTORS, every-
body, send 25c. in U. S.
postage stamps for 1

year's trial subscription to the CAMP ADVOCATE and UNIVERSAL EXCHANGE. Established 9 years. Advertise your articles with us and reach this special class direct. Send one dollar and any advertisement of 30 words and it will be published one whole year, subject to revision or a new adv. sent each month as desired. Mention where you saw this adv. when writing. Exchange Publishing Co., 20-26 Exchange Street, Athol, Mass.

Single copies, 5c. None free.

EVERY ONE WHO SENT**FOR MY SURPRISE PACKET**

was delighted. Why not send for one? Your money back if not satisfied. Packet contains only choice stamps and the price is only 14 cents, post free. Each packet contains a 2-cent Imperial stamp extra, and every fifth a 5-cent unused Canadian Jubilee. I also use 1/2-cent stamps for postage.

E. V. CAMPION,
GODERICH - ONT., CAN.

Please mention "The Stamp Exchange."

AUCTION SALE - Closes May 1st.

Successful bidders will be notified by p. c. when they will be expected to remit. All stamps advertised are cleaned and in good condition unless otherwise stated. Postage extra on all bids. Cat. Value

1	Canada, 100 1/2c., maple leaf	.	.
2	" 100 1c., " "	.	.
3	" 100 2c., " "	.	.
4	" 100 3c., " "	.	.
5	" 100 5c., " "	.	.
6	" 100 6c., " "	.	.
7	" 100 8c., " "	.	.
8	" 100 10c., " "	.	.
9	" 1,000 1c., numeral	.	.
10	" 1,000 2c., " "	.	.
11	" 1,000 3c., " "	.	.
12	" 100 2c., Imperial, mixed	.	.
13	" 100 2c., " lavender	.	.
14	Mauritius, 1863, 5/ unused, fine	.	\$7.50
15	" same as above, block of 4	.	30.00
16	Newfoundland, 1857, 3d., green	.	4.00
17	Moldavia, 1858, 54 para, blue on green laid, unused, a beauty, catalogued by Scott's 57th at	.	300.00
18	Moldavia, 1858, 81 para, blue on wove, unused, a very fine copy, catalogued in Scott's 57th at	.	500.00

Send in your bids, no matter how small.

R. F. C. ROBINSON,
325 Hargrave St., Winnipeg, Can.

(Formerly Huns Valley, Man.)

L. of C. P. 33.

D. P. A. 205.

CAUTION!

Counterfeits of the scarce Tahiti provisional stamps are on the market; when it is true that they are not well enough counterfeited to deceive any experienced Philatelists, to be sure and have the

GENUINE

you better address to

Mr. GEORGE CARION,

P. O. Box 2457, San Francisco, Cal.,

who some four years ago bought the stamps of the whole correspondence of the San Francisco firms in business with Tahiti and also the remainders of the provisional issues from the post-office. San Francisco is the only American port having connections with Tahiti and is also port of transit for the French mail.

Mr. George Carion, an expert of years of standing, acquainted with the quantities issued of each value, and known as having always made his quotations very low, it can be depended upon that when the very small stock of these very scarce and interesting stamps he has yet in hands will be exhausted a big advance in the prices of Tahiti stamps will be recorded.

Genuine Tahiti stamps are not to be sold at 50 per cent. discount from catalogue prices, as even in some instances prices over catalogue are asked. Remember, get the

GENUINE

for which you pay reasonable prices, and not the cheap, which is worthless.

Please mention "The Stamp Exchange."

THREE FINE SETS
at about one-third catalogue price.**HONDURAS UNUSED**

1891 issue, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 75c. and 1 peso, complete catalogue price, 69c., my price, 25c.
1891 issue, 2, 5, 10 pesos, complete catalogue price, 70c., my price, 25c.

LABUAN JUBILEE ISSUE.

1896, used, 2c., 3c., 5c., 6c., 8c. . . . \$0.25
The three sets as above for70
Money order or unused stamps. 1898-9 Price-List Free. Call and see me when in town.

C. E. HUSSMAN,

Rooms 420-421 Fullerton Building, St. Louis, Mo.

The Best Way

To increase your collection and at the same time make a little money is to buy my ready-made approval books. I make up blank approval books (no printing in them) by placing in them 60 perfect stamps and price them according to catalogue. And look at the price! Drop selling stamps for others at a small percentage, and go in for yourself. Only a small capital required and the profits are big.

Books catalogued at \$0.75	\$0.10
Books catalogued at 1.00 . . . .	.20
Books catalogued at 1.50 . . . .	.35
Books catalogued at 2.00 . . . .	.50
Books catalogued at 2.50 . . . .	.75
Books catalogued at 4.00	1.30

Remember, I don't send these on approval but I refund money if not satisfactory. One firm has been buying two \$2.50 books per week for almost two months. Must like 'em, eh?

STAMPS FOR APPROVAL SHEETS

Fine mixtures of salable stamps especially adapted for cheap approval trade. Many unused and all are perfect. No damaged.

Stamps cat. at 1c. each, per 100 . . .	\$0.20
Stamps cat. at 2c. each, per 100 . . .	.45
Stamps cat. at 3 and 4c., per 100 . . .	.85
Stamps cat. at 5c. each, per 100 . . .	1.25
Stamps cat. 5 to 25c. each, per 10 . . .	.35

No less quantity sold.

For new price-lists of stamps, coins and Confederate bills, address

ROSS D. BRENISER,
Box 292. Johnstown, Pa.

GREATEST BARGAIN EVER OFFERED!

We have purchased a large lot of good stamps very cheap and have made them up into

Packets of 1,000 Each.

The catalogue value is over \$30, and we have decided to close them out at the very low price of

\$1.06 EACH,
Post Free.

It contains only stamps of the better class from all parts of the world, and all are in fine condition. No cut cards, envelopes, etc., are included.

**Satisfaction Guaranteed or Money
Cheerfully Refunded.**

OUR PACKET NO. 118 is another great bargain. It contains 500 splendid varieties from every quarter of the globe. No common continentals. Sure to please. Price only 85 cents, post free.

Our price list is free.

We also have approval sheets at 50% to 75% off catalogue. Good reference brings a selection.

**NOVA SCOTIA
STAMP CO.,**

Sherbrooke, Nova Scotia.

Please mention "The Stamp Exchange."

RARE UNUSED COLONIALS At 50% Discount!

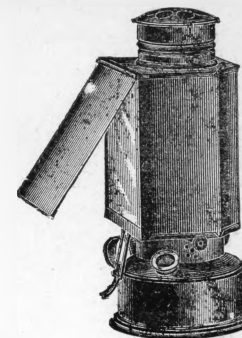
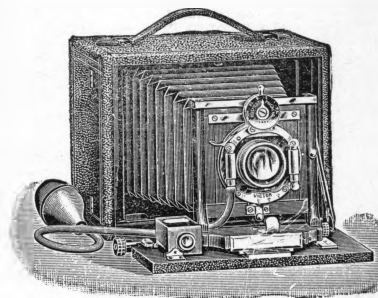
Antigua, 1885, 6p. green	\$1.25
Barbadoes, 1861, 4p. red	8.50
" 1882, 6p. sepia brown	2.00
" reg. env., 1882, 1p. rose . . . . .	.25
British Columbia, 1861, 2½p. pink	5.00
British Honduras, 1888, 20c. on 6p. yellow (No. 24)	2.00
Canada, 1859, 2c. pink	2.50
" 1868, 15c. red violet	1.50
Cyprus, 1882, 12p. orange brown, Die B	7.50
Dominica, ½p. on 6p. green . . . . .	.50
Gold Coast, 1889, 2p. green	1.25
Grenada, 1883, 8p. bistre	2.00
Hawaiian, 1882, 10c. black	2.00
Ionian Islands, ½p. orange and 2p. carmine	2.25
Montserrat, 1884, ½p. green . . . . .	.25
" 2½p. blue . . . . .	.60
Nevis, 1884, 1p. rose . . . . .	.50
" 2½p. blue . . . . .	.60
Newfoundland, 1857, 1p. violet brown	5.00
" 1p. red brown	5.00
" 3p. green	1.50
" 5p. violet brown	1.50
" 5p. red brown	1.75
" 1863, 6½p. lake	2.50
" 1sh. lake	1.50
" 1866, 2c. green	1.00
" 10c. black	3.00
" 13c. orange	1.25
" 1867, 1c. violet brown	2.50
" 5c. black	6.00
" 1876, 1c. violet brown	2.00
Nova Scotia, 1860, 10c. red	1.50
" 12c. black	2.00
Prince Edward Island, 1865, 1p. buff	2.00
" 1868, 4p. black	1.00
" 1870, 4½p. brown	2.00
" 1861, 6p. green	2.50
" 1865, 9p. lilac	2.00
Queensland, ½p. green, moirée on back . . . . .	.12
St. Lucia, 1883, 1p. carmine	2.50
St. Vincent, 1871, 1p. black	1.00
" 1881, ½p. orange . . . . .	.25
Seychelles, 1890, 13c. blue and black . . . . .	.35
Sierra Leone, 1883, ½p. bistre, w'm'k C. A.	3.00
" 1895, 6p. violet brown	1.50
Tasmania, 1871, 3p. Indian red	1.00
" 1876, 4p. olive yellow . . . . .	.60
Tobago, 1883, 1p. red brown . . . . .	.50
" ½p. on 2½p. blue . . . . .	.50
" ½p. on 6p. brown . . . . .	.60
Turks Islands, 1881, 6p. olive brown	8.50
" 1882, 2½p. red brown . . . . .	.75
" 4p. gray	1.50
" 1883, 1p. on 2½p. brown . . . . .	.50
35 per cent discount on the following:	
Virgin Islands, 1883-89, 1p. rose (Queen)	1.25
" 4p. brick red	1.50
" 6p. lilac	2.50
" 1sh. brown	3.75

Every stamp is guaranteed perfect and in fine condition. Remittances preferred by express or P. O. order, payable at CHICAGO, ILL. No orders for less than \$1.00 accepted. Stock is large and complete, and all orders filled on day of receipt. Mention this paper and we will send our catalog free.

W. F. BISHOP & CO.
(Seventeen Years Continuously in the Stamp Trade)
LA GRANGE, ILL.

We Buy any UNUSED Colonials in any Quantity.

Amateur Photographers Here!



Take 25% off the manufacturer's retail price on any Photographic article. Send us the cash and we will send you just what you want.

If you have n't the cash, but want a good CAMERA, write and we will show you a way to get a \$25.00 CAMERA for 25c.

HERE ARE A FEW BARGAINS:

	Retail Price.	Our Price.
Acme, 8¼ inch, Oil or Gasolene Burnishers	\$10.00	\$6.00
Pyrogallic Acid, per oz. . . . .	.35	.24
Hypo, per lb. . . . .	.10	.04
Amber Glass Trays, 4 x 5 . . . . .	.25	.15
" " 5 x 8 . . . . .	.35	.20
" " 8 x 10 . . . . .	.58	.30

Self-Toning, Aristo Platino and Velox Paper.

3½ x 3½, per doz.	\$0.15	\$0.09
4 x 5 " " . . . . .	.25	.13
5 x 7 " " . . . . .	.40	.25
8 x 10 " " . . . . .	.90	.55

Send for a copy of the Illustrated "United States Punch."

I will give three months' subscription to any of the following Philatelic Papers: E. S. P., V. P., N. Y. P., L. S. S. P., P. W. & C. N., E. P. P. B., M. P., A. J. of P., P. O., S. A. P., P. W., or P., for 25 1c., or 75 2c., or 4 4c., or 35c., or 2 8c., or 3 10c., or the entire lot for 4 50c., or 2 \$1.00, or 1 \$2.00 Omaha stamps; must be lightly cancelled and evenly centred.

JOHN BISBEE.

I want all the Philatelic Papers I can get. Send all you have. For every 5 sent I will give 5c. worth of popular magazines or papers—quality for quality.

The New England Photographic Society is forming. All New England photographers should belong. Particulars for a stamp. We want you for a charter member.

JOHN BISBEE.

John Bisbee & CO.,

WHOLESALE DEALERS IN ALL
PHOTOGRAPHIC SUPPLIES.

Stoughton, Mass.

Please mention "The Stamp Exchange."

"STAMPS,"

MONTHLY PHILATELIC JOURNAL.

It is now recognized as one of the leading high-class philatelic papers. It is published punctually on the 25th of each month, and consists of 24 pages (16 pages reading matter). Articles by the leading writers. Some of the special features are:—LEADER—LEADING ARTICLE—PHILATELIC FRAUDS EXPOSED—JUNIOR'S PAGE—NOTE-BOOK—MONTH'S LITERATURE—REVENUE PAGE—POST CARD COLUMN—CATALOGUE OF THE REVENUE STAMPS OF JAPAN—CATALOGUE OF THE POST CARDS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES—OTHER ARTICLES, ETC., ETC.

If you have not seen a copy send for one at once. All collectors should subscribe. All dealers will find it worth their while to give it a trial advertisement, owing to its circulation. SUBSCRIPTION, 2s. per annum, post free to any part of the world.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Price per Insertion:

Whole Page	60s.
Half Page	33s.
Quarter Page	18s.
Eighth Page	10s.
Sixteenth Page	5s.

Large Reduction for a Series
of
Insertions.

Short Private Advertisements are inserted, rate, 1/4d. per word. Four insertions at the price of three; nine at the price of six; twelve at the price of eight.

TERMS.—Strictly cash with order. Advertisements for a series payable quarterly, in advance. No exchange.

Remittances of 2s. and over should be made by Money Order, and under that amount by unused stamps.

Latest date for receiving advertisements, the 12th of each month.

Address all communications to the Editor and Publisher.

F. L. HEYGATE - - RUSHDEN, ENGLAND.

... Auction Sales in London ...

CHEVELEY & CO.,

63 and 64 Chancery Lane, London, England,

hold Auction Sales of Stamps once in three weeks, which are attended by every important buyer in England and the agents of all the principal foreign collectors and dealers, thus affording the best possible market for realizing, especially for rarities.

Terms for including collections and stamps in these sales:—

10 PER CENT ON THE AMOUNT REALIZED,

NO FURTHER CHARGE OF ANY KIND.

In cases where the owner fixes a reserve price on his lots, and they are bought in, the charge is one shilling per lot, irrespective of value.

Accounts and remittances sent within 14 days after the sale.

OLDEST AUCTIONEERS IN ENGLAND.

(ESTABLISHED 1862.)

Please mention "The Stamp Exchange."

S. J. PARKHILL & CO., PRINTERS, BOSTON, U.S.A.

REDUCTION

FROM NUMBER 1. VOL 5.
RETAIL PRICE OF "STAMP FAIR"
HAS BEEN REDUCED TO

++++ 3! +++++